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# *AQoL2014Istanbul*

<http://www.amerabra.org>

**ABRA International Conference on Quality of Life,  
Istanbul Technical University, Istanbul, Turkey  
26-28 December 2014**

***"Quality of Life"***

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# Conference Background

Asia is the world's largest and most populous continent with a population of about 4.3 billion people in 2013. Hosting about 60% of the world population, and coupled with a high growth rate, it is imperative that Asia establishes an international research organisation which specifically focus on the well being of the Asian communities, living in both the Asian and non-Asian countries.

Hence, the establishment of ABRA (Association of Behavioural Researchers on Asians) in 2014, with its headquarters in Shah Alam, Malaysia. AMER (*ABRAmalaysia*) shall be the permanent secretariat for *ABRAworldwide*.

To mark the establishment of *ABRAworldwide*, the maiden international conference AQoL2014 (*ABRA International Conference on Quality of Life* - also temporarily dubbed as *AicE-Bs2014 v.2*) shall be held in Istanbul, Turkey. The 1st *ABRAworldwide* Board Meeting shall be held in conjunction with the conference. *ABRAworldwide* is currently represented by Cyprus, Egypt, Iran, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Taiwan and Turkey.

# Acknowledgement

This landmark conference, in conjunction with the formalisation of ABRA, was made possible by many persons.

Deepest appreciation to our Co-Host, ABRA Turkey for the coordinating tasks, and the Istanbul Technical University, Istanbul, Turkey for providing the conference venue. Both had ensured the smooth running and success of AQoL2014 Istanbul, Turkey from 26-28 December 2014

Many thanks also to the International Scientific Committee (ISC) / aJE-Bs & jABs Editorial Board Members, represented from 22 countries worldwide, for their continuous commitment and dedication for reviewing the conference papers.

The publication of this Poceeding (final draft) was made possible by the paper contributors. List of establishments which contributed the papers are as follows:-

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# Foreword

This maiden landmark conference, AicE-Bs2014 ver. 2: **AQoL2014Istanbul** (ABRA International Conference on Quality of Life) was organised to mark the official establishment of **ABRA** (Association of Behavioural Researchers on Asians). ABRA, an international research organisation was formalised by the Malaysian Registrar of Societies on 20th October 2014, with AMER (Association of Malaysian Environment-Behaviour Researchers a.k.a ABRA Malaysia) as the Permanent Secretariat, headquartered in Shah Alam, Malaysia. This maiden had also paved the way for the **ASEAN-Turkey ASLI** (Annual Serial Landmark International) **Conference on QoL**.

**AMER** had just successfully organised its 2nd **AicQoL** (AMER International Conference on Quality of Life), in Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia from 4-5 January 2014. The maiden was held at Langkawi Islands, Malaysia from 6-7 April 2013. The **AicQoL** and **AQoL** were strategised as a back-to-back international annual serial conference on Quality of Life, with ASEAN countries being the epicentre for the established **AicQoL**, while Turkey/neighbourhood as the epicentre for **AQoL**. Thus, the **ASEAN-Turkey ASLI** (Annual Serial Landmark International) **Conference on QoL**. Best paper award winners have the choice to present their future papers at either the forthcoming AicQoL or AQoL.

**AQoL2014Istanbul** with the "*Quality of Life*" as the main theme managed to attract an overall total of 86 numbers of approved abstracts from 8 countries worldwide, namely Denmark, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran, Malaysia, Taiwan, and Turkey. Those finally transformed into 56 accepted full papers for this Proceeding.

Amongst the countries participating, the top three which contributed the most number of papers were Malaysia (70%), followed by Taiwan and Turkey (each 9%). The continuous worldwide interest in participation, abodes well for the future of AQoL. It certainly signaled the justification, relevance and timeliness in organizing this maiden, to be an annual serial conference with the objective of publicising more behavioural studies, which involved in particular, the Asian communities. Studies of other communities which fit the theme of the conference were also most welcomed.

The papers approved were simply grouped generally under 17 sub-categories, although quite a number could have been easily placed under more than one category. The top four categories in order of popularity involved the following environments:- Urban Environment (16%), Community Environment (13%), Children Environment and Residential Environment (both 11%), and Educational / Learning Environment (9%).

On a final note, the Association of Malaysian Environment-Behaviour Researchers (AMER), the main organiser of AQoL2014, together with the co-host, ABRA Turkey, congratulate all contributors in making AQoL2014Istanbul a tremendous success!

Hopefully this conference will inspire and encourage more researchers to participate in our forthcoming serial conferences to be held annually. The increase in participation shall be most highly likely as the Conference Proceedings shall be published in Elsevier's *Procedia Social and Behavioural Sciences* accessible online in [www.ScienceDirect.com](http://www.ScienceDirect.com). Furthermore, AicE-Bs and AicE-Bs conferences have been indexed by Thomson Reuters CPCI (formerly the ISI Proceedings).

Thanks again for your continuous support as always, and hope for an enlightening conference!

**Prof. Dr. Mohamed Yusoff Abbas**

Chair, AQoL2014Istanbul

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